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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit

PMRL2010-52

Mesosulfuron-methyl

(publié aussi en français)

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has received applications to register technical grade mesosulfuron-methyl and the end-use product Silverado WDG Herbicide for use in Canada on wheat

The evaluation of these mesosulfuron-methyl applications indicated the end-use product has merit and value and the human health and environmental risks associated with its proposed use are acceptable. Details regarding these applications can be found in Proposed Registration Decision PRD2010-01, *Mesosulfuron-methyl*, published on 28 January 2010.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the MRLs for mesosulfuron-methyl listed below in Table 1 was conducted domestically via PRD2010-01. The PMRA received no MRL related comments in response to this consultation which closed on 14 March 2010.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Mesosulfuron-methyl

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Mesosulfuron-methyl	methyl 2-[[[(4,6-dimethoxy-2-pyrimidinyl)amino]carbonyl]amino]sulfonyl]-4-[(methylsulfonyl)amino]methyl]benzoate	0.1	Wheat germ
		0.03	Wheat
		0.01	Eggs, fat, meat and meat byproducts of cattle, goats, hogs, horses and sheep, milk

Livestock MRLs were proposed at 0.01 ppm, the limit of quantitation (LOQ) of the enforcement method, based on calculated maximum reasonably balanced dietary burdens, and ruminant and poultry metabolism studies conducted at highly exaggerated feeding rates, which supported that no quantifiable residues of mesosulfuron-methyl were anticipated in livestock matrices resulting from the proposed use on wheat.

However, MRLs intended for fat, meat and meat byproducts of poultry were not included in PRD2010-01, although MRLs for these commodities were also supported at 0.01 ppm. Therefore, consultation on the MRLs proposed in Table 2 for mesosulfuron-methyl is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document).

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs for mesosulfuron-methyl in Canada in or on food are as follows.

Table 2 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Mesosulfuron-methyl

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Mesosulfuron-methyl	methyl 2-[[[(4,6-dimethoxy-2-pyrimidinyl) amino]carbonyl]amino]sulfonyl]-4-[[[(methylsulfonyl) amino]methyl]benzoate	0.01	Fat, meat and meat byproducts of poultry

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

International Situation and Trade Implications

American tolerances have not been established for mesosulfuron-methyl in poultry commodities (tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide). Currently, Codex Alimentarius MRLs¹ have not been established for mesosulfuron-methyl on any commodity. A listing of all established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website.

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for mesosulfuron-methyl up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for mesosulfuron-methyl and posting a corresponding Established Maximum Residue Limit document in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

¹ The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.